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Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 08952 110902Z

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 110835Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
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S E C R E T CAIRO 8952

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FOR UNDER SECRETARY SISCO FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS EG
SUBJECT: NUMBUS STREAM

REF: CAIRO 8650

1. IN REFTEL I FORWARDED COMMENTS CONCERNING NIMBUS STREAM FOR YOUR POSSIBLE USE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH BOB ELLSWORTH. INCLUDED IN THESE COMMENTS WAS MY RECOMMENDATION THAT WE SHOULD LOAN THE EGYPTIAN NAVY THE TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT NEEDED IN ORDER TO PERMIT THEM TO SAFELY UNDERTAKE FOLLOW-ON CLEARANCE OPERATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF OUR OWN NAVY'S CURRENT MINESWEEPING EFFORT. I ALSO ADDRESSED THE RELATED QUESTIONS OF SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF EQUIP-MENT AND MANUALS, TRAINING OF EGYPTIAN PERSONNEL,AND THE POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION OF A SMALL NUMBER OF AMERICAN TECHNICIANS.

2. ON SEPTEMBER 8 MY NAVAL ATTACHE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER WITH VICE ADMIRAL ZIKRY, CINC EGYPTIAN NAVY. NAVATT EXPLAINED, WITHOUT MAKING ANY COMMITMENT, THAT WHILE SALE OF EQUIPMENT (AS ZIKRY HAD INITIALLY REQUESTED) WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE POSSIBLE, WE WERE ATTEMPTING TO
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OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION TO PROVIDE THIS EQUIPMENT TO

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EGYPTIAN NAVY ON A TEMPORARY LOAN BASIS. HE COULD, HOWEVER, MAKE NO COMMITMENT AT THIS TIME. ZIKRY INDICATED THAT THIS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AND WOULD MEET HIS NEEDS.

3. I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD VERY MUCH IN OUR INTEREST TO BE ABLE TO INFORM ZIKRY AND GOE, AT AN EARLY DATE, THAT WE WILL IN FACT MAKE THIS EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE ON LOAN, TOGETHER WITH NECESSARY TECHNICAL SUPPORT PERSONNEL. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY HELP YOU GIVE IN EXPEDITING APPROVAL OF THIS CONCEPT.
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